

Message

From: Weekley, Erin [weekley.erin@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/21/2020 10:59:53 PM
To: Barton, Kasey [Barton.Kasey@epa.gov]; Bednar, Candace [Bednar.Candace@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: AltEn Ethanol Plant Media Inquiry

FYI

Erin Weekley
Chemical Branch Chief
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
office (913) 551-7095
work cell (816) 274-1107

From: Washburn, Ben <washburn.ben@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Green, Jamie <Green.Jamie@epa.gov>; Weekley, Erin <weekley.erin@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: AltEn Ethanol Plant Media Inquiry

A little update from NDEE.

From: Felix, Carla <carla.felix@nebraska.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 4:24 PM
To: Washburn, Ben <washburn.ben@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: AltEn Ethanol Plant Media Inquiry

Hi Ben,

Thanks for giving us an opportunity to review the responses you prepared. We also shared with the Dept. of Ag for comment. We see no issues.

Here are the questions posed to NDEE which are were different from what was sent to us for response.

I'm not so sure I have specific questions about the documents. I have specific questions about the situation.

** Has the state confirmed the presence of neonicotinoid insecticides in the wetcake/DDG/material -either on site at the plant or in the materials delivered to area farm fields for land application?*

** Has the state sampled water in area creeks and streams containing runoff from the plant for the presence of pesticides? If so, what are the levels found and when was the testing done?*

** If no testing has been done, why not?*

** Does the state agree that bee die-offs on the University of Nebraska research farm site in Mead is related to AltEn's onsite storage and land application and lagoon operations that contain waste products that include neonic-treated corn?*

** Is the state coordinating with EPA and/or the Attorney General's office to mitigate the matter?*

** Does the state consider the issue closed given the stated plans by AltEn to incinerate the waste into biochar?*

** Are other ethanol plants in the state also taking in neonic-treated corn seed and if so have there been similar complaints?*

From: Washburn, Ben <washburn.ben@epa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 1:03 PM

To: Felix, Carla <carla.felix@nebraska.gov>

Subject: AltEn Ethanol Plant Media Inquiry

Good afternoon Carla,

We have received an inquiry from Carey Gillum regarding the AltEn ethanol plant in Nebraska. I understand that NDEE has received the same inquiry. We have put together the attached draft response. I wanted to share with you for your awareness. We'd like to get this back to the reporter today, but wanted to touch base with you first. Please let me know your thoughts.

Thanks,
Ben